



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

Advisory Circular

subject: **FAA Quality Control System**
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Date: 10-10-89

Initiated by: ALG-430

AC No: 00-41B

Change:

1. **PURPOSE.** This circular describes the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Quality Control System Certification Program and the mechanics of.. implementation. It is intended for guidance and information only.
2. **CIRCULAR CANCELLED.** This document cancels Advisory Circular 00-41A dated November 3, 1975.
3. **REFERENCE DOCUMENT.** The requirements for a Quality Control System in conformance with the FAA Quality Control System Certification Program are specified in the latest issue of FAA-STD-016 entitled "Quality Control System Requirements." (Copies *of this circular and other applicable FAA specifications, standards, and drawings may be obtained from the contracting Officer in the Federal Aviation Administration office issuing the invitation for bids or request for proposals. Requests should fully identify material desired, i.e., specification, standard, amendment, and drawing numbers and dates. Requests should cite the invitation for bids, request for proposals, or the contract involved or other use to be made of the requested material).
4. **INTRODUCTION.** The Quality Control Certification Program is based on the following:
 - a. The Contractor is totally responsible for delivering products and services in full compliance with the contract requirements.
 - b. The quality of a product is achieved through a process which first, provides clear identification of the design characteristics that are to be built into the product and second, establishes and maintains a control system to assure those design characteristics are achieved in the delivered product.
 - c. In addition to detection and correction activities, emphasis on defect prevention activities is essential for an effective quality control system.
5. **DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM.** The FAA Certification Program provides for:
 - a. **A System.** The contractor is required to establish and maintain a total quality control system incorporating quality control techniques applicable (but not limited) to, management, design, development (including computer software and firmware), purchasing,

manufacturing/production, packing and packaging, inspection, test controls, installation and other on-site work, and documentation necessary to consistently provide supplies and services in accordance with requirements of the contract. The system will emphasize defect prevention activities in addition to correction, and detection activities (inspection and test) required to verify that the supplies and services are in compliance with contract requirements.

- b. A Proposed Plan. The contractor is required to submit a description of their quality control system in a Quality Control System Plan (QCSP) which is tailored to the particular procurement involved. The QCSP shall identify the methods, procedures, and controls to be utilized to assure conformance of the products and services with all contract requirements. The QCSP shall, as a minimum, comply with the above mentioned FAA-STD-016.
- c. Evaluation of Proposed Plan. The FAA will evaluate each proposed plan against QCSP factors identified in the solicitation to determine acceptability or non-acceptability.
- d. Incorporation of Plan. The QCSP generated by the successful offeror is incorporated into the contract at the time of award.
- e. A Certificate. The successful contractor will be issued a "Quality Control System Certificate" that recognizes the contractor's commitment to the required QCSP.
- f. Evaluation of Plan Implementation. After award, the government evaluates the contractor's implementation of the QCSP and verifies the acceptability of resulting supplies and services.

6. OTHER FEATURES OF THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

- a. Applicability. The FAA Quality Control System Certification Program will normally be applied to: (1) acquisitions for supplies or services of such quantity and/or complexity as to benefit from the application, (2) provides for the expenditure of ten or more million dollars, and (3) utilizes a negotiated or two-step formally advertised method of procurement.
- b. Termination. A Quality Control System Certificate: (1) expires upon completion of delivery of all supplies and services, including spare articles, on the contract involved, or (2) may be suspended or revoked when it has been determined by the FAA that the contractor has failed to maintain and operate the system for which the Certificate was awarded. Insufficient or ineffective corrective action may be taken as evidence of such failure. Appropriate contract action, including termination for default, may be taken concurrent with certification revocation.

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- c. Authority. The office responsible for issuing a Quality Control System Certificate is the FAA Industrial Division (ALG-400), Logistics Service, 800 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20591.



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